

Filed for intro on 01/10/95
House Bill _____
By _____

Senate No. SJR0002
By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mr. Heath Shuler for his many
outstanding achievements.

WHEREAS, it is important that the elected members of this general assembly honor those people who through their alacritous efforts are fine representatives of their community, state and university; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is Health Shuler, quarterback extraordinaire of the NFL's Washington Redskins and former standout for the University of Tennessee Volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the son Mr. and Mrs. Joe Benny Shuler of Bryson City, North Carolina, Heath was a heralded recruit out of Swain County High School, leading Coach Boyce Deitz's team to state championships in 1988, 1989 and 1990; and

WHEREAS, he also garnered 1-A North Carolina Player of the Year prep honors in 1989 and 1990, was named to the prestigious list of Parade magazine high school All-Americans, and received similar honors from USA Today and Blue Chip magazine; and

WHEREAS, Heath Shuler's arrival on the campus of the University of Tennessee in 1991 signaled the dawning of a new era in the proud tradition of Tennessee football; and

WHEREAS, from his inception as quarterback of the Vols in his first game against Louisville, Tennessee fans knew Heath Shuler was something special; through his talents on and off the field he galvanized a loyal legion of Vol admirers not soon to be eclipsed; and

WHEREAS, during his storied tenure at Tennessee, Heath Shuler broke many of the records set by previous Volunteer stars; they include the record for most passes in a single season, highest single season passing efficiency points, highest yards per play total, most touchdown passes in a career, fewest interceptions in a season, most touchdown passes in a single game, and most touchdowns rushing by a quarterback in a season, surpassing fellow North Carolinian Jimmy Streater in that category; and

WHEREAS, 1993 was a banner year for Heath Shuler, beginning with his selection as Most Valuable Player of the Hall of Fame Bowl where he led the Vols in a sound defeat of Boston College; he also earned the Washington D.C. Touchdown Club's Division I Back of the Year award, and was selected to be on the Football News, AP and UPI All-American teams; and

WHEREAS, that same year Heath Shuler received the SEC Player of the Year award and was a finalist for the Davey O'Brien Award, the Maxwell Award and the prestigious Heisman Trophy; and

WHEREAS, his many honors and accolades aside, Heath Shuler is most proud of the love and support he shares with his parents, Joe Benny and Margie Shuler, and brother Benjie, a receiver on the University of Tennessee football team; and

WHEREAS, Heath Shuler's ability to excel in all endeavors is evinced by his leadership in the classroom, where he was a member of the 1993 SEC Football Academic Honor Roll; he epitomizes all that is good in today's young leaders; and

WHEREAS, Heath's lifelong dream has been to play in the National Football League, and in the 1994 NFL draft those dreams were realized as he was selected in the first round by the Washington Redskins; and

WHEREAS, Heath's progression in football and as a person has been steady, his convictions are firm and his loyalties many; Tennesseans owe Heath Shuler a debt of gratitude for the fine example he sets and for his unflagging commitment to all that is right; and

WHEREAS, it is with a tremendous sense of pride that we salute those persons who through their marvelous talents have achieved unparalleled success in their chosen professions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY- NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we congratulate Heath Shuler for his outstanding accomplishments and extend to him our best wishes for his continued success in the NFL and all other future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be prepared and sent to Heath Shuler and his parents with this last resolving clause deleted from such copy.

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